

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.:	10/530,960)	
)	
Inventors:	Hugh David Facey et al.)	Conf. No.: 2255
)	
Filed:	April 11, 2005)	
)	
For:	A CAP FOR)	
	PALLETISED LOADS)	
)	
Examiner:	Stephen T. Gordon)	
)	
Art Unit:	3612)	
)	
Atty. Docket:	198/42447/517-PCT-US)	

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED MARCH 7, 2007

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed March 7, 2007, Applicant elects Group I, Claims 59-69, drawn to a combination pallet cap, for prosecution in this application. This election is being made with traverse.

Under M.P.E.P. §803, there are two criteria for a proper requirement for restriction between patentably distinct inventions. They are:

- (1) The invention must be independent or distinct as claimed; and
- (2) There must be a serious burden on the Examiner if restriction is not required.

Claims 59-69 of the present application are directed to a cap for use on palletised loads, while claims 70-82 are directed to a cassette for incorporation in a cap for use on palletised loads. As many of the features and components in claim 70 and its dependent claims are also to be found in claim 59 and its dependent claims, Applicant submits that there is unity of invention, and that there would be no serious burden on the Examiner should the requirement for restriction be withdrawn.

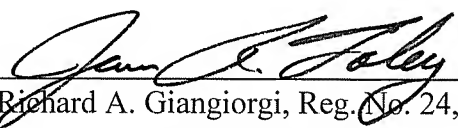
Applicant respectfully submits that the restriction requirement should be withdrawn. Nevertheless, should the Examiner disagree and maintain the restriction requirement, Applicant expressly reserves the right to pursue claims 70-82 in a divisional or continuation application.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this Response, the Examiner is invited to contact one of the undersigned attorneys at (312) 704-1890.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: March 21, 2007

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